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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOME OF THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Letter dated 19 October 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the Bariloche Declaration, issued by all the participants in the fifth Ibero-American Conference of Heads of State and Government held in San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly under items 25, 27, 29, 39, 45, 56, 61, 63, 65, 95, 101, 105, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 146, 156 and 161 of the agenda of the fiftieth session.

(Signed) Emilio J. CARDENAS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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BARILOCHE DECLARATION

PART I: EDUCATION AS AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

I. INTRODUCTION

1. We, the Heads of State and Government of the 21 Ibero-American countries, have met for the fifth time in the framework of the Ibero-American Conference of Heads of State and Government, in the city of San Carlos de Bariloche, on 16 and 17 October 1995, convinced that our shared cultural heritage and the principles and objectives adopted at our previous meetings have strengthened our Conference as a forum for collective action and a preferred instrument of cooperation. In this connection, we are pleased to note the progressive strengthening of the capacity of the Ibero-American Conference to uphold and act upon the set of concepts and principles on which it is based.

2. We affirm our unwavering commitment to democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, the rule of international law and observance of the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. The historical and cultural affinities underpinning our shared identity, together with these principles, whose recognized validity is the fundamental reason for our membership in the Ibero-American community, constitute the conceptual framework which has guided our reflections, purposes and objectives with regard to the issue of education for development.

3. Today, on the threshold of the twenty-first century, Ibero-America faces a threefold challenge: to promote and consolidate sustained and sustainable economic and social development; to broaden and deepen integration processes in a context of open regionalism; and to become integrated into a world undergoing radical changes, primarily as a result of the revolution in science, technology and production.

4. Against this backdrop, we see education as the primary means of meeting these challenges successfully. Access for all to the values, knowledge and skills imparted by the educational system is a prerequisite for ensuring the continuity and stability of democratic institutions, guaranteeing political, economic, social and cultural participation, especially on the part of the most disadvantaged groups and contributing to the fight against poverty.

5. Of special relevance in this regard are the reflections of the Ministers of Education of the Ibero-American countries expressed at their meetings in Guadalupe, Spain (1992) and Salvador, Brazil (1993), which were convened and organized in close cooperation with the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture. We also endorse the decisions taken and programmes adopted at the fifth Ibero-American Conference on Education (Argentina, 1995) and contained in the Buenos Aires Declaration.

6. In the light of these documents, we have decided to devote our meeting in Bariloche to discussing and adopting conclusions on education in the conviction that it is one of the cornerstones of development in our societies.

II. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

7. The educational and cultural development of communities is a prerequisite for the consolidation of democratic political systems with the capacity to build integrated, participatory societies.

8. Education is an essential component of the Ibero-American cooperation strategy. It involves the transmission of knowledge and the affirmation of values that emphasize peaceful coexistence, responsibility, tolerance, solidarity and justice and that promote the development of individuals who show social solidarity and who are active and tolerant in the political sphere, productive in the economic sphere, respectful of human rights and aware of the value of the natural environment.

9. Education policies should be designed by the State with the consensus and participation of all social sectors, and should seek to give the entire population equal access to education without discrimination.

10. The efforts to be made in this connection cannot be confined to educational systems. Scientific and technological training and research must be linked more closely to the production of goods and services in order to enhance competitiveness.

11. Our common efforts to promote comprehensive education cannot be limited to formal educational systems. We must meet the demands of broad sectors of the population which, for whatever reason, have not had access to the various levels of formal education. To that end, we must make use of all available instruments, especially the mass media.

12. Today, comprehensive education is a strategic resource of crucial importance for growth and full social participation and for sustained, balanced and equitable development. The profound socio-economic, scientific, technological and cultural changes which have taken place in the world over the past decade demand educational systems which are capable of developing the skills required in order to cope with these changes and which stimulate creativity and emphasize the new culture of innovation, as well as a clear vision of the future vis-à-vis the challenges of the next millennium.

13. The search for excellence calls for a multifaceted educational effort adapted to a dynamic technological environment. Consequently, education must be viewed as a shared responsibility of society as a whole which involves not only educational institutions but also economic and social actors, the communications media and the various types of social organizations.

14. Our aim is to create an increasingly integrated Ibero-American community. To that end, we must promote genuine educational and cultural cooperation among all of our countries to build a growing interrelationship among the institutions that comprise the educational system.

15. In view of the foregoing, we affirm that a priority objective of this fifth Summit is to raise the awareness and sense of responsibility of society as a whole with respect to the importance of innovation processes for modernization and social and economic participation.

III. EDUCATION AS A FACTOR FOR COHESION IN THE IBERO-AMERICAN COMMUNITY

16. The Ibero-American community has an exceptionally solid communication base, thanks to the existence of common languages and cultural and educational similarities which have been shaped during many centuries of a shared history. Easy communication in the educational sphere is a common characteristic of the Ibero-American countries.

17. In that connection, we feel that Ibero-America's cultural wealth and the Spanish and Portuguese languages in which it is expressed constitute a common heritage. It is essential to protect and promote that heritage in every forum, especially in those international organizations, agencies and institutions in which one or other of those two languages enjoys official status. Within each of our nations, that same need for protection and preservation exists in respect of indigenous languages, which constitute an indivisible part of the Ibero-American cultural heritage and of humanity as a whole.

18. Consequently, the development of joint programmes in the fields of education and research not only will facilitate progress in educational activities, but will provide opportunities for contacts and relations among the Ibero-American peoples and the structuring of a common economic and social network, thus strengthening awareness of an Ibero-American identity.

19. To achieve that goal, we are determined to give the highest priority to programmes for exchanges among experts and teachers in the fields of education and research, which offer great potential for collective efforts and should be at the core of Ibero-American cooperation. The development of educational research and technological management programmes is an objective which opens up many opportunities for Ibero-American cooperation.

IV. EDUCATION AS AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF SOCIAL POLICY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

20. Knowledge, particularly in the scientific and technological spheres, is a key asset in the economic and social progress of our countries. The concern to go forward in the acquisition, development and transfer of knowledge currently constitutes one of the main topics on the agenda of the Ibero-American community.

21. Education as social policy should strengthen our capacity to disseminate knowledge and generate appropriate strategies for providing access to that knowledge by individuals, groups and communities on a basis of equity, thereby improving the quality of education services to the population as a whole.

22. This democratization of education should begin with measures to reduce and eradicate illiteracy, semi-literacy, non-attendance at school, repetition of school years, high drop-out rates, and the deteriorating quality of education.

Progress in that area could be achieved by strengthening schemes for cooperation on educational policies and by sharing experiences among countries.

23. Priority in educational policies must therefore be given to producing quality primary and secondary education aimed at providing the knowledge, techniques, values and skills necessary for people to live in dignity, to attain educational levels in keeping with their abilities, to continue to learn throughout their lives, and to foster the human qualities of Ibero-American societies.

Today, this goal has become a matter of urgency because we are experiencing a crisis characterized by deterioration in the quality of education.

24. In improving the quality of education, the principle of equity must not be neglected. Developing education in such a way as to promote genuine equality of opportunity and access, avoiding all forms of exclusion of less advantaged sectors, will ensure social cohesion and guarantee equality of educational and productive opportunities for women and the inclusion and participation of young people. It will further ensure respect for the cultural and linguistic identity and integrated development of indigenous peoples and generate an appreciation of cultural pluralism and multi-ethnic coexistence.

25. Economic changes and structural adjustment in the Ibero-American countries have led to the increasing modernization of their economies, albeit at a high social cost for many countries. Policies for formal education and job training, accompanied by new, more flexible employment policies, can make a decisive contribution by absorbing more and more people into the labour market, thus enabling them to share in the benefits of development.

26. In examining ways of creating a link between education and production, the need for a good general education and the variability of the demand for labour must be taken into account. The best training for work is good-quality basic education that is sufficiently broad, flexible and multi-purpose to serve as the basis for specialization at a later date in line with the constant changes in the labour market.

27. It is also important that the value of job training, in all its aspects, should be fully appreciated: for workers, it should mean increased employment opportunities, protect them from any decline in earnings, and give them the chance to prepare for new working methods of today's society; for young people in search of their first jobs, it should provide a means of penetrating the labour market; and for enterprises, it should act as a stimulus for increased worker productivity and competitiveness, as well as an instrument for easing the worker's adaptation to new market demands and the use of new technologies.

28. The linking of formal education with job training is essential both for economic development and for access to employment.

From that point of view, the role of the State is of strategic importance. Encouraging investment in education in order to produce more highly qualified workers capable of applying new technologies and adapting to modern methods of organizing work, is one of the State's major responsibilities in efforts to reduce unemployment.

29. The changes in the workplace resulting from a transformation of the socio-economic context call for a re-examination of traditional models of vocational education and job training. That responsibility should be shared by the different social actors, namely, Governments, enterprises, unions, social organizations and individuals.

30. In managing the resources allocated for education, it is important to avoid duplication of investments, reduce administrative costs, ensure optimal benefits from expenditure, provide greater autonomy for individual establishments by promoting greater citizen involvement in school management, improve performance evaluation and follow-up methods, achieve improved levels of effectiveness and efficiency, and provide advanced training for those in charge of the education process.

31. In the Ibero-American countries, universities and other establishments of higher education have always been central to the process of tertiary education. For that reason, and given the changes that have taken place, universities are now facing a twofold challenge: to institute structural and curricular modernization and to adapt education to the demands of Ibero-American societies, the object being to contribute to their political, economic and social development.

32. The Ibero-American community is also confronted with the task of improving its capacity to absorb and generate technology. Through programmes of applied research, research efforts must be brought into line with the needs of the production sector and funds for research must be sought from the private sector. To this end, the mechanisms linking the academic world to the development of applied research in the business world must be strengthened. One such mechanism is the Ibero-American Programme of Science and Technology for Development (CYTED), whose most recent conference, dedicated to training for innovation, was held in Buenos Aires from 2 to 4 October. Regular units should be established in centres of higher education to promote such activities and agreements between the universities and the business community can serve as ideal mechanisms for that purpose.

33. Rapid technological change requires continual updating of skills. Therefore, institutes of higher education should undertake the continuous refresher training of professionals by establishing projects based on the combined efforts of the academic and private sectors. Moreover, enterprises should become involved in the academic world in developing continuing education programmes leading to incentive schemes for encouraging the necessary investment.

34. In line with our commitment to these goals, we agree on the need to develop an Ibero-American university of excellence for training the men and women who will run our countries in the next millennium. Strengthening the role of the Ibero-American universities will be one of our basic priorities.

35. We therefore consider it important to create stronger links among universities and other establishments of higher education in the Ibero-American countries, with a view to the greatest possible harmonization of their

educational programmes. With that in mind, we will also encourage programmes of student and teacher exchanges.

V. CONCLUSIONS

36. In the belief that expenditure on education should be considered as an investment in society, we express our determination to promote the efficient use of State and private funds for education and to promote a substantial, progressive and sustained increase in allocations.

37. Education needs to be comprehensive and integrated in view of the growing trend towards globalization of economic activities, regional integration and, at the same time, revitalization of neighbourhoods as areas offering individuals scope for self-fulfilment and for development of the community to which they belong.

38. Integrated quality education implies the establishment of policies which provide for:

(a) equal opportunities for all members of the population in terms of access to, attendance at and graduation from high-quality educational establishments, thus advancing social justice by promoting specific programmes to compensate for inequalities;

(b) the acquisition of knowledge and the development of skills equipping people to practice a profession, cope with daily living or perform civic duties;

(c) the need to review traditional models of vocational training with the participation of the various social actors, such as the family and the enterprise;

(d) recognition of and respect for cultural diversity;

(e) advocacy of the values of democracy, solidarity, tolerance and responsibility at the primary and secondary school levels as the basis for peaceful and harmonious coexistence;

(f) active participation in society in the political, economic and social spheres through access to knowledge that is essential for the development of individual skills. Education programmes must involve all social actors;

(g) integration of existing human resources in the workforce and society as a whole through new, flexible employment policies and the development of workers' training programmes;

(h) stimulation of intellectual curiosity and an inquiring mind from the very earliest age as the take-off point for the development of scientific and technological research and for social reforms aimed at promoting the well-being of society as a whole;

(i) an understanding of the link between science, technology and society as the foundation for a culture of innovation;

(j) intensive use of the most up-to-date teaching materials with emphasis on promoting reading and establishing new and/or better-equipped libraries within teaching institutions with a view to a wider dissemination of knowledge;

(k) modernization of Ibero-American universities and institutes of higher education to promote standards of excellence and foster cooperation and complementarity among them;

(l) strengthening the teaching profession by improving initial training, refresher training and ongoing training programmes;

(m) upgrading existing programmes and introducing new vocational training programmes to bring our countries closer together, as well as more modern teaching methods in this field;

(n) continuing to promote scientific research as a substantive basis for fostering development and updating technology by designing a training school capable of making a substantial contribution in the area of research applied to the production sector and strengthening support for the establishment and coordination of research networks among the countries of the Ibero-American community;

(o) development and analysis of the connection between science and production by promoting the continuous integration of technology and scientific applications in production methods;

(p) the study, understanding and analysis of Ibero-American cultural identity through joint programmes and high-level institutions, giving equal attention to the humanities, the arts and the social sciences. For that purpose, there should also be an increase in exchanges, forums and meetings among artists, academics and social scientists.

39. To ensure the implementation of approved educational programmes and projects, we shall instruct the national focal points to prepare a status report, with recommendations, to be presented by the secretariat pro tempore to the sixth Ibero-American Summit. In carrying out this task, cooperation with the competent international bodies may be requested.

40. We express our gratitude to His Excellency President D. Carlos Saúl Menem and through him to the Government and people of Argentina for the warmth and kindness extended to us in San Carlos de Bariloche. We also wish to express our special appreciation to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of Argentina for the excellent manner in which it organized this Summit and for the performance of the secretariat pro tempore of the fifth Ibero-American Summit.

41. We invite all Heads of State and Government to attend the sixth Ibero-American Summit to be held in the Republic of Chile in 1996.

BARILOCHE DECLARATION

PART II: COOPERATION RESULTING FROM THE SUMMIT MEETINGS OF THE IBERO-AMERICAN CONFERENCE

1. We, the Heads of State and Government of the Ibero-American countries, agree to give the highest priority to building on our common interests in order to deepen the sense of identity of the Ibero-American community, strengthen the development of each of the countries comprising it and intensify relations with countries belonging to other geographical or cultural communities.

2. The existence of a common basis of communication among all of the Ibero-American nations as a result of our use of two closely related languages, Spanish and Portuguese, as well as our shared historical, cultural, moral and educational traditions, will enable us, the members of the Ibero-American community, to forge closer linkages among our societies on the threshold of the twenty-first century. This process will be aided by the technological advances which have overcome the obstacle of distance.

3. We, the Heads of State and Government of the Ibero-American countries, aware of the vital role of communications in furthering the progress of our peoples and wishing to foster development through processes that stimulate the interrelationship among our societies, agree to give high priority to identifying and implementing cooperation programmes which will draw the citizens of our countries together by weaving a common economic and social fabric. In this connection, we hereby establish the guiding principles of the Ibero-American cooperation activities resulting from the summit meetings of the Ibero-American Conference.

4. Cooperation programmes should serve as ideal operational tools for strengthening the Ibero-American identity in all of the member countries. Our aim is to support initiatives that mobilize society in order to generate development and build linkages among our peoples. These programmes shall seek to include all of the member countries of the Conference.

5. Cooperation is also a manifestation of solidarity among the Ibero-American countries in dealing with common problems; thus, by definition, it involves the participation and contributions of all of the countries, taking their relative levels of development into account. Implementation and follow-up mechanisms should be based on the specific programmes adopted at the summit meetings.

6. In view of the need to facilitate Ibero-American cooperation, we agree to establish a network of national focal points to screen the projects proposed for adoption at our summit meetings and a network of cooperation officials to identify and prepare new programmes and to oversee the operations of existing ones.

7. The effectiveness demonstrated by our secretariat <u>pro tempore</u> in preparing for the Ibero-American Summits leads us to believe that this mechanism would be equally effective in organizing Ibero-American cooperation activities.

8. On the understanding that the network of cooperation officials is the core structure for Ibero-American cooperation, we agree to give the highest priority to consolidating and strengthening it, whether by establishing appropriate and expeditious procedures or by providing it with interconnected computer systems.

9. To be eligible for adoption at these Ibero-American summit meetings, programmes and projects involving Ibero-American cooperation must be sponsored by at least seven of our member countries and must be endorsed at the meetings of cooperation officials and national focal points.

10. We Heads of State and Government recognize the importance of the financial and/or technical resources which our countries set aside in advance for the adoption of cooperation programmes and projects of mutual interest, since these resources bear witness to the priority given to such initiatives and will ensure their successful completion.

11. Cooperation programmes and projects adopted at the Ibero-American summit meetings shall be co-financed by all of the participating countries. The proportions of the contributions may vary according to the nature of the activities and the economic capacity of the parties. Each country shall specify what it can afford to contribute during the process of selecting the programmes and projects.

12. It will also be possible to use outside sources for the financing of cooperative programmes and projects, on the initiative and with the agreement of national focal points and cooperation officials and in accordance with the terms of the corresponding framework agreement.

13. Participating countries will also be able, if they so decide, to establish integrated trust funds for the financing of their programmes and projects. At the time of the creation of each fund, its amount and the procedures for its management and winding-up will be established in accordance with each country's legislation. Each fund can be set up, at the initiative of one or more States, for programmes and projects approved at the summit meetings.

14. We are convinced that the types of financing and the mechanisms which we adopt, in accordance with our national laws, will be the best ones for strengthening and consolidating Ibero-American cooperation. Those countries which deem it necessary will be able to provide for the creation of a specific budget line to facilitate the financing of programmes resulting from the summit meetings, without prejudice to the possibility of seeking resources elsewhere for the implementation of approved projects. Any moves to establish common funds will be welcome and there is no reason why, at some point in the future, there should not be initiatives and support for the creation of an Ibero-American cooperation fund.

15. We therefore welcome the signing of the Agreement on Cooperation in the Framework of the Ibero-American Conference, which will serve as an appropriate instrument for progress towards such goals.

16. Having received the report of the meeting of national focal points and cooperation officials which analyses proposals for cooperation programmes, projects and initiatives, we agree to the following:

Of current programmes, we endorse those listed below, for which the participating countries will determine the technical and/or financial commitments entered into:

- Ibero-American Educational Television programme
- MUTIS programme
- Adult literacy and basic education programme
- CYTED programme
- CIDEU programme
- Indigenous Peoples' Fund.

Regarding those programmes approved at previous summit meetings whose implementation has not yet begun, we agree to call upon the countries concerned to adapt them to the cooperation mechanisms adopted at this summit meeting.

We also accept and approve the following programmes and projects, including those supported by the latest Ibero-American Conference on Education, in expectation that they will be formulated fully and adapted to the new cooperation mechanisms:

(a) Programme of support for links between universities and the business community

(b) Programme of cooperation for the development of national systems to evaluate the quality of education

(c) Ibero-American project for the promotion of reading

(d) New lines of the MUTIS fellowship programme

(e) IBERFOP programme (Ibero-American programme for cooperation in the joint design of vocational training systems)

(f) IBERMADE programme (Ibero-American programme for the retraining of education administrators

(g) Project for the conversion of military bases into an Ibero-American teacher training centre

(h) Project for exchanges of experience in the field of decentralization: technology transfer and allocation of resources; direct application

(i) Support for the self-management process with a view to the creation of agro-industries in Ibero-American communities

(j) MISTRAL programme (exchange programme for intermediate-level university students)

(k) IBERCAMPUS programme (inter-university exchanges of students and lecturers during periods when academic calendars do not coincide)

(l) IBERMEDIA programme (programme to develop audiovisual capabilities in the Ibero-American countries)

(m) IBERENCUENTROS programme (programme of Ibero-American workshop on topics to be determined by cooperation officials during the current year).

A detailed description of these programmes is given in annex A to this document.

We welcome the initiatives listed below, which have been presented by the countries members of the Ibero-American Conference:

(a) Establishment of mechanisms for transfers of know-how and expertise in the area of export development and promotion

(b) Establishment of mechanisms for transfers of know-how and expertise in the agricultural sector

(c) Creation of a visual archive of Ibero-American art

(d) Sustainable rural development of ecologically vulnerable areas

(e) PRIAS (Regional Plan for Investments in Environment and Health)

(f) CISCE (Ibero-American Export Credit Guarantee Company)

(g) Ibero-American cooperation mechanism with a permanent headquarters

(h) FIICYT (Ibero-American Fund for Scientific and Technological Integration)

(i) Ibero-American exhibition of plastic arts. Biennial

(j) Public administration data management programme

(k) CIJE (Ibero-American Confederation of Young Entrepreneurs)

(l) PRADJAL (Latin American and Caribbean Regional Programme for Youth)

(m) Ibero-American exchanges of research workers

(n) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) participation in municipal programmes through Ibero-American Educational Television

(o) Education and the creation of businesses for local development

(p) Ibero-American network of excellence in public administration and training of leaders

(q) Improvement of coffee quality and decontamination

(r) Model programme of international training in participatory and sustainable development

(s) Bridges across Borders

(t) Special education

A detailed description of these programmes is given in annex B to this document.

17. We feel that this wealth of programmes and initiatives is an ideal channel for the development of the Ibero-American community.

BARILOCHE DECLARATION

COOPERATION RESULTING FROM THE SUMMIT MEETINGS
OF THE IBERO-AMERICAN CONFERENCE

ANNEX A - CURRENT PROGRAMMES

Ibero-American Educational Television. Approved by the second Ibero-American Summit, it is managed by an association of its users (currently 250 associated institutions), with the full support of ministries of education and with participation from the major Ibero-American universities. Regular daily programming using the HISPASAT satellite began with one-hour broadcasts in 1993. There are now two hours of daily programming for Ibero-America and one for Spain and Portugal. In addition to meeting the objective of communication in the educational field, it has helped to encourage the co-production of indigenous broadcasts. Spain undertook to finance the programme's initial phase and has been contributing some 300 million pesetas annually. To ensure that the project continues, all Ibero-American Governments must provide stable financing, both to defray infrastructure costs and to fund the co-production of audiovisual educational materials. The cooperation officials' network will take a decision on this issue as soon as possible.

MUTIS programme. Approved at the second Ibero-American Summit, this programme provides support for exchanges of post-graduate students in those disciplines of greatest importance for the development of the Ibero-American community. Since 1993, Spain has been providing 400 new fellowships annually, many of them multi-year fellowships. In 1994, Argentina and Mexico began similar programmes.

Adult literacy and basic education programme. Approved at the second Ibero-American Summit, this programme, in the areas where it is operating, seeks to teach up to 25 per cent of illiterates to read and write and to raise their basic educational level, while at the same time providing them with some kind of vocational training that will give them genuine access to the workforce. Programmes began in 1993 in El Salvador and the Dominican Republic, thanks to a cooperative effort between the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science, the ministries of education of the two countries and the organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture. The programme has 3,350 literacy workers and, to date, 33,000 people have been reached under the programme in El Salvador and 40,000 in the Dominican Republic. Paraguay has requested to join the programme.

CYTED programme. Set up at the second Ibero-American Summit, this programme involves the participation of nearly 8,000 university scientists and technologists, a research and development centre and businesses in 140 thematic networks, research projects and IBEROEKA innovation projects. In 1995 a study group drew up an Agenda 2004 for the future development of the programme. This will require the 21 countries to increase their contributions to the programme budget, an issue to which the cooperation officials' network will devote its full attention.

CIDEU (Ibero-American Centre for Strategic Urban Development) Programme. Set up at the second and third Ibero-American Summits, CIDEU began operating in 1993

and currently involves 33 cities in 15 countries. Agreements have been signed with the Spanish International Cooperation Agency and IDB. As a follow-up to the conclusions of the 1995 annual meeting, civic leaders will receive more training in the planning and design of social policies and a framework will be established for exchanges of information between mayors and entrepreneurs, incorporating operational information about investment projects in the participating cities, with a view to facilitating the creation of a market for strategic urban projects in Ibero-America.

Indigenous Peoples' Fund. The agreement establishing the Fund was signed at the second Ibero-American Summit and ratified in 1995 by more than 11 countries. Its aim is to set up a support mechanism for sustainable development processes among the indigenous peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean. The structure of the Fund was formalized at the first general meeting held in May 1995. It also provides a forum for the discussion and design of indigenous development policies agreed upon by all the parties concerned: indigenous peoples and regional and extraregional Governments. The Fund will have its own resource base, in the form of contributions from the member countries.

NEW PROGRAMMES APPROVED

(a) Programme of support for links between universities and the business community. The aim is: to strengthen links between universities and businesses in the region, in response to prevailing social and economic circumstances, and to promote scientific and technological research in order to further the modernization process; to conduct studies on curriculum design and/or major fields of study and/or specialized courses, so as to adapt them to changing production patterns in areas where a high level of scientific know-how is required; and to design a compatible system for promoting basic and applied research on scientific and technological development related to the production system.

(b) Programme of cooperation for the development of national systems to evaluate the quality of education. The aim is: to prepare a database for use in evaluating quality, with a view to identifying the training and technical assistance needs and demands of each country in the region, as well as any programmes in specific fields that might be generated by individual countries; and to develop an alternative system for evaluating the quality of education, bearing in mind the characteristics of Ibero-American educational systems. To this end, an attempt will be made to train local resources to provide backstopping for the establishment of evaluation systems that are consistent with the region's needs.

(c) Ibero-American project for the promotion of reading. This programme is designed to promote cooperation among the Ibero-American countries with a view to executing a pilot project whereby institutions responsible for designing educational policies, especially ministries of education, would be provided with the necessary tools to implement policies for updating methods of teaching reading and writing. It would also offer these entities effective mechanisms for facilitating the access of teachers and students to reading materials.

(d) MUTIS. New actions. Expansion of the current programme along the following lines: 1. implementation of joint doctoral programmes among two or more Ibero-American universities; 2. exchanges, for short periods of time, of doctoral candidates who are in the process of writing their thesis.

(e) IBERFOP. Ibero-American programme for cooperation in the joint design of vocational training systems. The aim is to design, with the active participation of social agents, models for vocational training systems that are adapted to the specific needs of each country, in order to develop an Ibero-American capability in this area. The Spanish International Cooperation Agency will set up and finance, for a two-year period, the technical unit responsible for coordinating and developing this programme.

(f) IBERMADE. Ibero-American programme for the retraining of education administrators. The programme involves the training of education administrators and future managers, with a view to improving the management and organization of the agencies concerned, in order to develop an Ibero-American capability in this field. The Spanish International Cooperation Agency will set up and finance, for a five-year period, the technical unit responsible for coordinating and developing this programme.

(g) Project for the conversion of military bases into an Ibero-American teacher training centre. This is a programme for converting the physical facilities previously used for military bases in the Panama Canal Zone into an Ibero-American centre of excellence for the design and planning of educational programmes. It will train resources, teachers and teachers' aides in order to develop an Ibero-American capability in this field and train future teaching staff.

(h) Ibero-American project for exchanges of experience in the field of decentralization: technology transfer and allocation of resources. Direct application. The aim is to enable all the Ibero-American countries to share their experiences in the area of administrative decentralization, especially with regard to the management of resources for technology transfer, both in the definition and formulation of distribution policies and in their management and application by territorial entity, in each of the sectors concerned.

(i) Support for the self-management process with a view to the creation of agroindustries in Ibero-American communities. The aim is to provide technical assistance to Ibero-American communities in managing their own agroindustrial projects, making use of know-how acquired through existing experiments as to the different types of social and entrepreneurial organization within the social economy, the ultimate goal being to strengthen their capacity for hiring, negotiating, reaching agreement and fostering community participation, through the application of organizational models for setting up pilot projects and technology transfer processes designed to provide entrepreneurial training to these communities.

(j) MISTRAL. This programme will support exchanges by university students taking intermediate courses in the first and second cycles, so that they can receive part of their training at a university in another Ibero-American country and be given credit by their own university for the time spent on the exchange programme. Over the medium term, participating universities will reach agreements with universities in other Ibero-American countries. The Institute of Ibero-American Cooperation of the Spanish International Cooperation Agency (AECI) will set up and finance, for a three-year period, the technical unit responsible for coordinating and developing this programme.

(k) IBERCAMPUS. This programme supports exchanges by university lecturers and by students who are completing degree programmes or taking graduate courses, during periods when academic calendars do not coincide, so that they can work with host departments in other Ibero-American universities. The Institute of Ibero-American Cooperation of AECI will set up and finance, for a three-year period, the technical unit responsible for coordinating and developing this programme.

(l) IBERMEDIA. This programme will support the development of audiovisual capabilities in the Ibero-American countries by providing continuous training for professionals, undertaking co-productions, supporting the distribution and showing of Ibero-American films and supporting applied research projects. The Institute of Ibero-American Cooperation of AECI will set up and finance, for a two-year period, the technical unit responsible for coordinating and developing this programme.

(m) IBERENCUENTROS. This is a framework programme which will promote sectoral meetings for the exchange and sharing of experiences. The idea is that these meetings might serve as a starting-point for future cooperation programmes. Each participating country will, in so far as it is able, send its most appropriate officials to the meetings, and one of the member countries will act as secretariat for the meeting. During the course of this year, the network of cooperation officials will determine what areas of action are to be covered in 1996.

BARILOCHE DECLARATION

COOPERATION RESULTING FROM THE SUMMIT MEETINGS
OF THE IBERO-AMERICAN CONFERENCE

ANNEX B - INITIATIVES WELCOMED

(a) Establishment of mechanisms for transfers of know-how and expertise in the area of export development and promotion

The aim is to establish mechanisms for exchanges of information and experience in those areas which countries see as offering advantages and in areas in where there has been successful penetration of new markets.

(b) Establishment of mechanisms for transfers of know-how and expertise in the agricultural sector

The aim is to establish mechanisms for transfers of information and expertise from countries that have been successful in modernizing this sector to those that still need to do so, in order to work together to solve the problems confronting agriculture in Ibero-America.

(c) Creation of a visual archive of Ibero-American art

The aim is to create a computerized archive of Ibero-American art in image form, starting from a prototype of 1,000 images with their texts, classified by country and historical period.

(d) Sustainable rural development of ecologically vulnerable areas

The object is to help generate a self-sustaining development process in the region's ecologically vulnerable areas, thereby bringing about an improvement in the quality of life of their populations.

(e) PRIAS (Regional Plan for Investments in Environment and Health)

The intention is to modernize environment- and health-related sectors in order to tackle current deficiencies in meeting the population's needs and improving its living conditions.

(f) CISCE (Ibero-American Export Credit Guarantee Company)

The proposal is to set up a support mechanism for intraregional trade which can offer the requisite diversity of policies to cover the different risks involved in international trade, particularly credit-related risks. The network of cooperation officials will study the possibility of converting this initiative into a programme within the framework of the Cooperation Agreement.

(g) Ibero-American cooperation mechanism with a permanent headquarters

The proposal is to set up an international agency responsible for the establishment and coordination of a network permitting ongoing follow-up of cooperation programmes.

(h) FIICYT (Ibero-American Fund for Scientific and Technological Integration)

The aim is to set up an Ibero-American fund to promote the region's scientific and technological development by encouraging the use of research and training centres, the generation and execution of research and development projects, contacts among Ibero-American scientists and the building of an Ibero-American community of scientists and technologists.

(i) Ibero-American exhibition of plastic arts. Biennial

The possibility will be considered of mounting an exhibition of plastic arts, comprising works from all the Ibero-American countries, to coincide with the next Ibero-American Summit. The exhibition would then travel, over the following two years, to countries that so requested and defrayed the related shipping costs.

(j) Public administration data management programme

Establishment of a standing forum on public administration and problems of Government.

(k) CIAG (Ibero-American Confederation of Young Entrepreneurs)

The Ibero-American Confederation of Young Entrepreneurs will hold its second Ibero-American conference in Montevideo in 1996.

(l) PRADJAL (Latin American and Caribbean Regional Programme for Youth)

Creation of greater opportunities for employment, education and participation of public institutions in youth questions and promotion of the health and social integration of young people.

(m) Ibero-American exchanges of research workers

Promotion, through training, of human resources of the quality and in the quantity required to conduct research and development programmes and projects in research centres and exchanges of experience in the research area.

(n) UNESCO participation in municipal programmes through Ibero-American Educational Television

In the framework of Ibero-American Educational Television, UNESCO will support activities for the training of municipal leaders and managers.

(o) Education and the creation of businesses for local development

The aim is to contribute to local, provincial and regional growth by developing a culture which will increase production initiatives. This proposal explores the notion of the "business process" of which entrepreneurs, enterprises, universities, the State and industry all form a part.

(p) Ibero-American network of excellence in public administration and training of leaders

Encouragement will be given to the establishment of an Ibero-American network of excellence in public administration and training of leaders which will include the main training and research centres in this area and will have specific offices for conducting activities which need to be coordinated and carried out at a specific location. The Spanish International Cooperation Agency, through its Institute of Ibero-American Cooperation, will support the operational organization of this initiative and its initial launching phase.

(q) Improvement of coffee quality and decontamination

The aim is to help improve the quality of coffee in a context of sustainability and environmental conservation and thereby to improve the quality of life both of the growers who participate directly in the project and of the populations that use the water resources of the river basins covered by the project.

(r) Model programme of international training in participatory and sustainable development

The aim is to manage and secure the integrated, participatory and sustainable development of the region while creating a living regional laboratory for research and training in self-managed development.

(s) Bridges across Borders

Implementation of a system of exchanges of schoolchildren between the ages of 11 and 15 in their last year of primary school and coming from schools named after an Ibero-American country or a recognized Ibero-American leader from the past, in order to help bring children together and get them to know each other better.

(t) Special education

The aim is to set up a regional programme for the education of children and young people with problems of backwardness, disability and other disadvantages.

BARILOCHE DECLARATION

AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN THE FRAMEWORK
OF THE IBERO-AMERICAN CONFERENCE

The Governments of the States members of the Ibero-American Conference,

CONSIDERING

THE DEVELOPMENT achieved through cooperation projects and programmes implemented within the framework of the summit meetings of the Ibero-American Conference,

THE NEED to establish an institutional framework to regulate cooperation within the framework of the summit meetings of the Ibero-American Conference, in order to enhance the value of the existing political dialogue and Ibero-American solidarity,

THE APPROPRIATENESS of setting up cooperation programmes which promote citizen participation in the establishment of a more cohesive economic, social and cultural relationship among the Ibero-American nations,

THE FACT THAT THE COOPERATION PROGRAMMES of the summit meetings are a catalyst for social progress and an important factor for shaping an Ibero-American identity,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1. For the purposes of this Agreement, the terms "national focal points", "secretariat pro tempore", "Coordinating Committee" and "meeting of cooperation officials" shall mean the national focal points, secretariat pro tempore, Coordinating Committee and meeting of cooperation officials of the Conference.

Article 2. The purpose of cooperation programmes and projects within the framework of the Ibero-American Conference shall be:

(a) to promote an Ibero-American identity through joint action in the areas of education, culture, science and technology;

(b) to strengthen participation by member States in order to contribute to greater and more effective links between their societies and to a sense of Ibero-American identity among their populations;

(c) to give practical expression to the concept of cooperation for development among the Ibero-American nations;

(d) to demonstrate Ibero-American solidarity in the face of common problems affecting one group or all of the member States;

(e) To promote the creation of a vehicle for Ibero-American cooperation through school and university exchange programmes, programmes of technological training, links between research workers and any other

initiatives that might strengthen the capacity for shared cultural creativity, with particular emphasis on the mass media.

Article 3. The Ibero-American Conference understands the development of its sphere of cooperation as being specific to the Ibero-American area and in no circumstances as superseding existing bilateral and/or multilateral mechanisms.

Article 4. Each member country shall give notice through its national focal point, of the appointment of an official to follow up all programmes and projects adopted by the Ibero-American summit meetings.

The meetings of cooperation officials shall be timed to coincide with the meeting of national focal points of the Ibero-American Conference. Additional meetings may be scheduled at the request of at least five member States.

Article 5. Cooperation officials may in respect of each programme and project approved by the Ibero-American summit meetings establish a team composed of cooperation experts from the member countries involved in the relevant programme or project to review and provide an assessment of the cooperation programmes and projects entrusted to them for consideration.

Article 6. The member countries shall strengthen and expand their cooperation within the framework of the summit meetings, in areas to be identified at those meetings. This will be done through the implementation of projects or programmes of relevance to the Ibero-American countries, such as scientific exchanges, exchanges of experience and publications, technology transfer and support for human resources training, which will help to ensure the optimum development of those countries.

Article 7. Cooperation within the framework of the Ibero-American Conference may be technical and/or financial.

Article 8. States parties may present programmes and projects to the secretariat pro tempore by the deadline set by that secretariat.

Such projects and programmes must satisfy the following conditions:

(a) Their purpose must be consistent with the programme guidelines of this Agreement;

(b) They must have the firm support of no less than three Ibero-American countries - the country making the submission and two or more participating countries;

(c) They must be of fixed duration and the related budgetary commitments must be maintained for a period of no less than three years to cover any delays in start-up. If the project is terminated before the three-year period is up, the relevant commitment will come to an end.

Article 9. The parties hereby adopt the operating handbook annexed to this Agreement, which may be updated whenever this is considered necessary to adapt it to the requirements of Ibero-American cooperation.

Article 10. Proposing and/or participating countries, which shall number at least three, shall, at the time of submitting a programme or project, enter into a financial and/or technical commitment covering part of the costs of its implementation, in accordance with the internal procedures of each party. Countries joining later shall make a similar commitment.

Proposing countries shall send the corresponding proposals to the secretariat pro tempore for circulating among the other parties.

Article 11. Once a project or programme has been circulated and has been endorsed by at least seven countries, which shall enter into the corresponding commitments in accordance with the procedures mentioned in the previous article, it shall be submitted for consideration to the cooperation officials, who, if they see fit, shall submit it for approval to the summit meeting, through the national focal points.

Decisions on the expansion of programmes and projects shall be taken by the countries participating in them.

Article 12. Once a programme or project has been approved by consensus, the meeting of cooperation officials shall determine the measures necessary to ensure follow-up of the implementation of the programme or project.

Where this is considered necessary for a given programme or project, the cooperation officials may propose to the meeting of national focal points that a technical management unit be established, answerable to the member States participating in that programme or project.

The participating countries may, jointly with the Coordinating Committee, periodically evaluate ongoing programmes and projects in order to report thereon to the cooperation officials and determine whether they remain relevant and valid.

Article 13. Programmes and projects submitted in accordance with the provisions of article 8, provided with adequate funding and approved in accordance with established procedures shall be formalized through specific agreements establishing the objectives, degrees of participation and forms of contribution of each participating country, based on its relative level of development.

In order to cover the total costs of the projected activities, arrangements may be made, jointly or separately, for obtaining the necessary resources from both domestic and other sources of technical and financial cooperation.

Those countries that so decide, in accordance with their domestic legislation and provisions, may agree to establish alternative forms of funding, for example, trust funds or common funds, among others.

Article 14. This Agreement is subject to ratification. The Government of the Argentine Republic shall be the depositary of the instruments of ratification.

Article 15. This Agreement shall enter into force on the thirtieth day from the date on which the seventh instrument of ratification is deposited.

For each State that ratifies the Agreement after the seventh instrument of ratification has been deposited, the Agreement shall enter into force on the thirtieth day from the date on which that State deposits its instrument of ratification.

Article 16. This Agreement may be modified or amended on the proposal of at least five of the parties. Proposals for amendments shall be communicated by the secretariat pro tempore to the other parties.

Once approved by consensus, amendments shall enter into force on the date on which they are accepted by a majority of the parties by means of the deposit of the relevant instrument of acceptance. For all other parties, they shall apply from the date on which such parties deposit the relevant instrument of acceptance in the manner indicated in this article.

Article 17. This Agreement shall be of indefinite duration and may be denounced by any of the parties by means of written notification to the depositary. Such denunciation shall take effect one year after the date on which notification is received by the depositary.

Article 18. The partial or total amendment of this Agreement, including its termination of denunciation, shall not, unless the parties agree otherwise, affect ongoing programmes and projects.

Article 19. Questions of interpretation of this Agreement shall be considered by the meeting of cooperation officials and resolved, by consensus, by the meeting of national focal points.

SIGNED at the fifth summit meeting of the Ibero-American Conference in the city of San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina, on 15 October 1995.

ARGENTINA	BOLIVIA
BRAZIL	COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA	CUBA
CHILE	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ECUADOR

EL SALVADOR

GUATEMALA

HONDURAS

MEXICO

NICARAGUA

PANAMA

PARAGUAY

PERU

PORTUGAL

SPAIN

URUGUAY

VENEZUELA

BARILOCHE DECLARATION

PART III: MATTERS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

We, the Heads of State and Government of Ibero-America:

1. Reaffirm that democracy and respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the individual constitute the basic values of the peoples of Ibero-America; and

2. Anxious to establish closer relations with other culturally related geographical areas, consider that the fortuitous circumstance that Spain currently occupies the Presidency of the Council of Ministers of the European Union has been instrumental in giving fresh impetus to relations between Latin America and Europe. Evidence of that development is the agreement reached in Montevideo, Uruguay, on 29 September 1995 between the European Union and the countries members of the Southern Cone Common Market (MERCOSUR) to conclude a framework agreement for interregional cooperation at the council meeting in Madrid in December of this year, as well as the talks begun with Chile and Mexico aimed at producing agreements strengthening economic, trade and political relations and the dialogue recently opened with Cuba.

3. At the same time, we wish to assert our interest in continuing, with the support of Spain and Portugal, the dialogue established between the European Union and the Rio Group, the Andean Pact and also the San José talks with Central America.

4. In the strong belief that concrete, broad strategies must be developed and applied to fight corruption, we reiterate our commitment to adopt cooperation mechanisms to combat that criminal activity because it weakens the democratic system, undermines the prestige of its institutions and constitutes an agent of social disintegration and distortion of the economic system.

5. We reaffirm our unwavering commitment to continue the fight against drug consumption, production and illicit trafficking and related crimes. We firmly believe that unless we win that battle, our societies in Latin America and our democracies will be placed in jeopardy. Consequently, it is essential that we find a comprehensive solution to the problem, encompassing the social and economic aspects, and commit ourselves by mutual agreement to bring about a significant and verifiable drop in drug use and a substantial reduction in supply. We further consider that strong measures must be taken against money-laundering, the distributor organizations, traffic in weapons and illicit trafficking in chemical precursors. To that end, we urge the developed drug-consumer countries to take steps to combat the laundering of drug money in their financial markets. Furthermore, we reaffirm our support for the convening of a world conference to combat narcotic drugs and shall instruct our Permanent Representatives to the United Nations to coordinate appropriate measures for holding the conference under the aegis of the United Nations in order to achieve the desired results.

We also confirm our support for the drafting of an inter-American convention against money-laundering and pledge ourselves to work together in

order to get the major consumer countries to shoulder their responsibility for resolving the problem with greater transparency and decisiveness.

6. We reiterate our condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and our commitment jointly and determinedly to combat by all legal means that scourge which violates human rights.

7. We profoundly deplore all nuclear testing, in particular the tests recently conducted in the Pacific Ocean. Any such test is a potential danger to health, security and the environment. We call upon all States to discontinue nuclear tests.

We urge all countries to sign a comprehensive test-ban treaty not later than June 1996. Pending its entry into force, we encourage them to respect the precautionary principle stated in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, as well as the pledge of the nuclear States to comply with the principles and goals approved at the Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

8. Consistent with the principles established in the Charter of the United Nations, by the World Trade Organization and in international law and with the resolutions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, we reject all unilateral coercive measures that affect the well-being of the peoples of Ibero-America, impede free trade and universally recognized transparent trade practices and violate the principles of regional coexistence and the sovereignty of States.

At the moment, we are especially concerned about the normative changes being discussed in the Congress of the United States, because they would take us in a direction contrary to those principles, with which we urge compliance.

9. In the context of the common interests of the Ibero-American community, we welcome the proposal of the Republic of Panama to convene a universal congress on the Panama Canal in 1997 to consider the process of transferring the interoceanic waterway in 1999 and its future modernization.

10. We wish to express our gratification that the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean held its first general meeting at Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, in May 1995 and that it was followed by round-table talks aimed at an agreed schedule of development projects, thus demonstrating the importance attributed to that Ibero-American Summit cooperation programme, which is supported by funds from the Inter-American Development Bank and other sizeable contributions.

We reaffirm the intention of our countries to support the Fund through our institutions and resources and to keep the item on the agenda so that we may consider other proposals for promoting the legitimate aspirations of indigenous peoples.

We wish once more to stress how important it is for all countries to ratify the agreement constituting the Fund.

11. We are very pleased by the resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 12 July last whereby it decided to proclaim the World Week of Peace, beginning on 24 October 1995, in solemn commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations. In conformity with that important resolution, we are prepared to give maximum publicity and assistance to the launching of the proclamation, which will undoubtedly enhance the prospects for inaugurating a period of universal peace. We place special emphasis on the need to promote a culture of peace in Ibero-America that honours the values of dialogue and understanding.

12. In view of the progress and successes of the peace and reconciliation process in Guatemala, we have decided to support the efforts of that Government and we urge the parties to strive for a firm and lasting peace. Furthermore, we urge the United Nations, the Group of Friends of the Guatemalan peace process and especially the Ibero-American community to continue to encourage them to expedite the negotiations so as to achieve a final peace agreement as soon as possible.

13. Considering that this fifth Ibero-American Summit is being held only a few days prior to the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, we wish to reiterate our strong support for the principles and purposes that inspired the creation of the Organization and we solemnly pledge to support it in its irreplaceable role as the forum of preference for dialogue and concerted action between the Ibero-American countries and the rest of the international community.

14. We should like to draw attention to the importance of the annual meeting of human rights ombudsmen, commissioners and counsels of Ibero-America that was held in Cartagena on 4 and 5 August 1995.

In that connection, we value the important role played by the institution of human rights ombudsmen and counsels, in those countries where they exist, in defending fundamental rights and guarantees and consolidating democracy.

15. As we said at the Salvador de Bahia (1993) and Cartagena (1994) summit meetings, we shall continue to support the efforts of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to reach a just, global and internationally acceptable solution to the question of East Timor in the framework of the norms and principles of international law.

16. We believe that the development and quality of human settlements, housing, basic infrastructure and the environment should be regarded as priority aspects of the economic and social policies of our countries. For that purpose, resources will be provided to meet the needs of the population, particularly the most impoverished and vulnerable segments, by applying a strategy calling for concentration of efforts by central, regional and local governments and private and community initiatives.

17. We welcome and support the position adopted by the Central American Presidents meeting at Costa del Sol, El Salvador, on 5 October 1995, whereby they reiterated their commitment to continue to improve the Central American educational system and their intention to eradicate illiteracy by the year 2000.

The Presidents accorded the highest priority to the literacy project in the context of the Alliance for Sustainable Development.

We also reaffirm our support for the efforts of the Central American countries to adopt a literacy primer promoting the spirit, unity, values and identity of their region within the broader framework of the Ibero-American community.

18. We wish to express our support for the selection (to be made at UNESCO headquarters on 20 November 1995) of South America as the site in the southern hemisphere for installing an extensive detection system for the "AUGER" project to investigate emission sources of very-high-energy cosmic rays, a subject of great interest to the international scientific community.

19. We appreciate the initiative taken by the Latin American Parliament to establish a Latin American community of nations.

To that end, we, the leaders of Latin America, are instructing our foreign ministers to establish a high-level committee which, in collaboration with the Latin American Parliament, will propose a timetable and set in motion the studies necessary for the constitution of the Latin American community of nations and define its relationship with the Ibero-American community.

20. We wish to draw particular attention to the importance of the draft Ibero-American social security code presented to this Summit by the ministers and other officials responsible for social security matters, and to the very important goals and objectives it embodies.

21. We support the efforts of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to implement its programmes and policies, in particular with regard to food security. We endorse the proposal by the Director-General of FAO to convene a World Food Summit in November 1996 and call upon all financial institutions, international governmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to support those programmes.

22. The holding in 1998 of the Lisbon World Exposition, "EXPO 98", on the theme of the oceans as our heritage for the future is an event of great interest to our community because it promises to offer a clearer understanding of the proper management of water resources and the protection of the environment.

23. We have welcomed the recommendations of the tenth congress of associations of Academies of the Spanish Language, held at Madrid in 1994. We shall encourage the implementation in Spanish-speaking countries to the extent possible of the proposals contained in the annex.

24. We were gratified by the first meeting of the Ibero-American Ministers and Secretaries of State recently held in Santiago. We endorse the joint declaration adopted at that meeting and urge the consolidation of this important forum for dialogue and reflection.

25. We attach particular importance to the recommendations of the technical meeting on the strengthening of mechanisms for follow-up and

evaluation of the targets for children of the Nariño Commitment, held in the city of Antigua, Guatemala, from 16 to 18 October 1995. In the context of sustainable development, we assume responsibility for according priority to economic and social policy measures that will benefit children.

26. Within the Ibero-American community, we shall promote the dissemination of the Spanish language in Portuguese-speaking countries and the Portuguese language in Spanish-speaking countries.

27. We are following with interest the evolution of the policy initiative to establish a community of Portuguese-speaking countries. We look forward to establishing a dialogue and fruitful cooperation between the Ibero-American region and that community.

28. We reiterate our support for the Regional Plan for Investments in Environment and Health adopted at the second Ibero-American Summit, and request the Pan American Health Organization to continue to accord priority to activities to implement the Plan.

29. We are gratified by he progress being made in implementing the Regional Programme for Youth (PRADJAL), the execution of which we entrusted to the Ibero-American Youth Organization of the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture, within the framework of the 1994 Cartagena Summit. We are confident that the attainment of the objectives set out in the programme of action will go far towards creating greater opportunities for young people with respect to employment, education, participation, health and social integration, and we therefore reiterate our pledge to lend the full support of our Governments to ensure the success of the programme.

30. We reaffirm our support for the development of the Bolivar plan for integration, innovation and industrial competitiveness and we urge entrepreneurs to work together to forge closer industrial, technological and scientific cooperation between the private sector and research institutes.

31. We are gratified to note the significant contribution being made to cultural development in the Ibero-American region by the Periolibros project, which is being executed by UNESCO and the Fund for Economic Culture; the project is an example of integration and cooperation involving the communications media, public institutions and private companies.

32. We consider it relevant and useful to continue to examine the possibility of setting up an Ibero-American computer network to establish a computer link among the countries of Ibero-America.

33. We appreciate the efforts under way to establish and launch the Ibero-American social security systems data bank. A draft project to that effect has been worked out by the Ibero-American Social Security Organization (OISS), and we encourage that it be further developed.

34. We are pleased to note the establishment in Canada on 14 September 1995 of a Chair of Ibero-American Studies as part of the

Ibero-American languages and cultures programme, an innovative and forward-looking example of cooperation between the private sector, an academic institution and the Ibero-American countries to further common goals.

35. We note the follow-up report submitted by Spain on the status of the Ibero-American Export Credit Guarantee Company. We are in favour of a having a consulting firm prepare a specialized study on the subject.

36. On this twentieth anniversary of the Latin American Economic System, we wish to point out the important role of this organization in promoting consultations and concerted action on matters of interest to the region and its contribution to cooperation within and outside the region.

37. With a view to undertaking coordinated action in the Ibero-American community to deal with unemployment arising from migratory flows of unemployed workers among the countries of the community as a result of the increase in their respective unemployment rates, we Heads of State and Government agree to accord special attention to the matter in the agenda for the sixth Ibero-American Summit.

38. Bearing in mind the need to modernize and harmonize practices relating to asylum, we Heads of State and Government have decided to recommend that the Coordinating Committee of the Ibero-American Summit should convene an Ibero-American meeting on asylum with a view to examining and, if necessary, updating legislation on the subject.

To that end, the Committee might wish to request the assistance of whatever international technical and financial agencies it deems appropriate.

39. We attach importance to the preparation by our educational systems of social action plans for the prevention of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) involving all segments of society from the nuclear family to the workplace and the individual.

40. Subject to commitments assumed previously, we shall support the candidature of Portugal as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council for the period 1997-1998.

41. In the elections to be held in November 1995 in Jakarta, Indonesia and subject to commitments assumed previously we shall support the candidature of Madrid to serve as host of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity.